

St Andrew's Lutheran Church
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St Andrew's Welcomes the Community to Epiphany Festivities

FOR RELEASE THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 23, 2018

Speedway IN - St Andrew's Lutheran Church, 6118 Crawfordsville Rd, invites the community to Epiphany Day festivities on Sunday, January 6 beginning at 4:00 pm.

In Western Christian Churches, Epiphany always falls on January 6 and is a day of celebration. It is usually associated with the visitation of the Wise Men and the Star of Bethlehem and is the last day of the 12 Days of Christmas. (Yes, the 12 days begin *after* Christmas!) In some cultures it is the day of gift giving. In other traditions it is the day on which homes and churches and businesses are blessed for the coming year. And it is the day that the greens, hung for the celebrations of Christmas, are taken down. At this darkest time of the year, lights are lit in honor of the star that guided the Wise Men and to remind us that despite darkness, Jesus is the Light of the World.

At 4:00 pm on January 6 St Andrew's welcomes everyone to celebrate the day with fellowship, food, activities and fun! If children from your extended families and community didn't have the chance to participate in a Christmas children's program, this is another opportunity! And if they are veterans of a pageant they will be ready to lead the procession!

*Activities! Children should bring a towel or blanket or something to dress up as a King/Queen. We have a few costumes, but it will help if children bring their own. There will be a "royal outfitters" station in the Fellowship Hall for accenting costumes and making crowns in preparation for worship. Children are an important part of Epiphany! Bring some with you!

*Food! Refreshments will include traditional Epiphany Kings' Cakes, a coffee bar and an ice cream sundae bar!

*Gifts! The Wise Men brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh to give to the infant Jesus. But what babies really need are diapers! Both St Andrew's emergency food pantry and the Lutheran Child and Family Services are in need of diapers! Let's bring them to church as if we are giving them to the Baby Jesus.....because we are! Other layette items are also welcomed. Our Kings and Queens in all their royal finery will process these gifts to the manger during worship.

*Blessings! Our worship will begin at 5:00 pm with a journey through our building as we ask God to bless St Andrew's and its mission in the community.

*Candles! Epiphany worship begins in darkness and then candles are lit to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World.

*Worship! We will worship Jesus, Our King, with hymns and prayers and gifts. But, no sermon! And we will not celebrate communion. The service will not be long. We know that it's a school night.

For more information please call the church office at 317-243-6684.

St Andrew's is affiliated with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a denomination of 9,000 congregations located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. We are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person - questions, complexities, and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world. St Andrew's holds worship (nearly) every Sunday at 10:00 am EXCEPT on Sunday, January 6 when fellowship begins at 4:00 pm and worship begins at 5:00 pm. All are welcome!